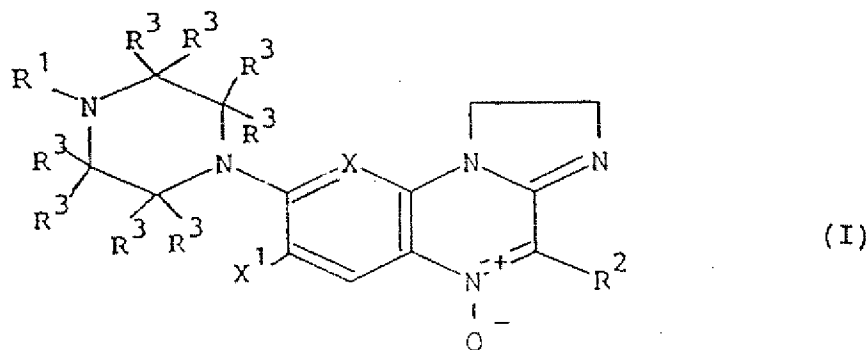


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<p>(21) International Application Number: PCT/GB93/01951</p> <p>(22) International Filing Date: 15 September 1993 (15.09.93)</p> <p>(30) Priority data: 9219565.0 16 September 1992 (16.09.92) GB</p> <p>(71) Applicant: BRITISH TECHNOLOGY GROUP LIMITED [GB/GB]; 101 Newington Causeway, London SE1 6BU (GB).</p> <p>(72) Inventors: ADAMS, Gerald, Edward ; FIELDEN, Edward, Martin ; NAYLOR, Matthew, Alexander ; STRATFORD, Ian, James ; MRC Radiobiology Unit, Chilton, Didcot, Oxon OX11 0RD (GB).</p>	<p>(74) Agents: WOODS, Geoffrey, Corlett et al.; J.A. Kemp & Co., 14 South Square, Gray's Inn, London WC1R 5LX (GB).</p> <p>(81) Designated States: AU, JP, KR, European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE).</p> <p>Published <i>With international search report.</i></p>	

(54) Title: NOVEL BIOREDUCTIVE COMPOUNDS



(57) Abstract

A quinoxaline or pyridopyrazine derivative of formula (I) wherein R¹ is a group containing a hydroxyl, oxiranyl, aziridine, alkylamino, pyrrolidino, morpholino, piperidino, piperazino, 2-nitroimidazolyl, or 5-nitrofuryl group; R² is a hydrocarbyl or heterocyclyl aromatic group unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents selected from halogen, haloalkyl, alkyl, nitro, hydroxy, alkoxy and alkylenedioxy; the groups R³ are the same or different and each is hydrogen, alkyl, or hydroxy; X is -CH= or -N=, and X¹ is hydrogen or halogen; and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof are useful in the treatment of tumours, and in particular hypoxic tumours. Processes for producing the compounds and pharmaceutical compositions containing them.

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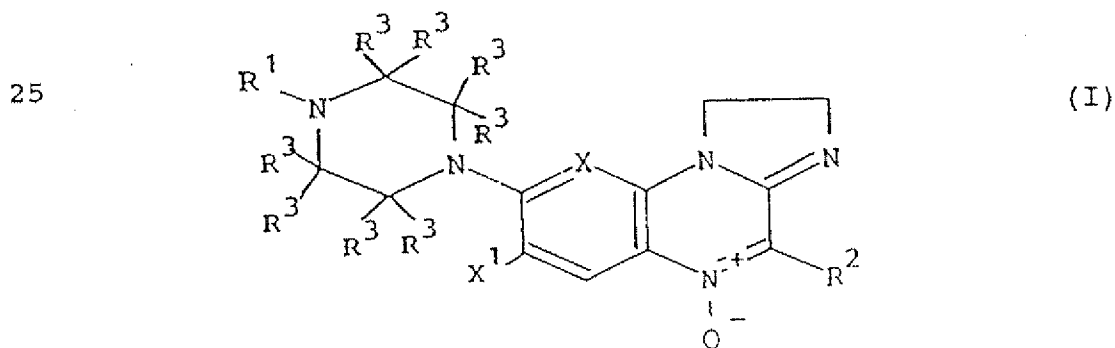
NOVEL BIOREDUCTIVE COMPOUNDS

The present invention relates to dihydroimidazo-
quinoxaline and dihydroimidazo-pyridopyrazines useful in
the treatment of cancer. It further relates to processes
5 for their preparation and pharmaceutical compositions
containing them.

EP-A-214,632 discloses quinoxaline and pyridopyrazine
derivatives which are useful as anti-anaerobic agents, for
the treatment of diseases related to anaerobic bacteria.
10 Such diseases include for example, post-operative sepsis
following lower gastrointestinal surgery or female
urinogenital surgery, pelvic inflammatory disease, ulcers,
gangrene, trichomonal vaginitis, non-specific vaginitis,
amoebiasis, giardiasis, periodontal disease, acne, and the
15 like.

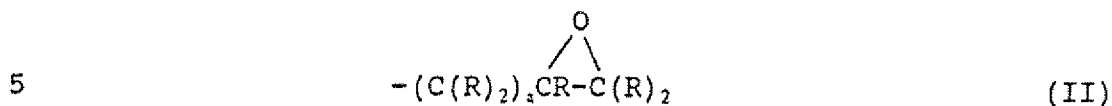
WO-A-93/00900, which was published after the priority
date of the present case, discloses that the compounds
disclosed in EP-A-214,632 and pharmaceutically acceptable
salts thereof are useful in the treatment of tumours and
20 particularly hypoxic tumours.

The present invention provides a quinoxaline or
pyridopyrazine derivative of formula (I)



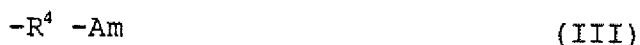
wherein R¹ is a hydroxyalkyl group;

a group of formula (II)



wherein a is from 1 to 4, the groups R are the same or different and each is hydrogen or alkyl of 1 to 4 carbon atoms such that the group of formula (II) contains in total
10 from 1 to 10 carbon atoms;

a group of formula (III)



15 wherein R⁴ is $-(C(R)_2)_b-$ or $-(C(R)_2)_bCROHC(R)_2-$, b is from 1 to 4, the groups R are the same or different and each is hydrogen or alkyl of 1 to 4 carbon atoms, such that R⁴ is an alkylene or hydroxyalkylene group containing from 1 to 10 carbon atoms, and Am is alkylamino or dialkylamino or a
20 heterocyclic group which is an aziridino group, unsubstituted or substituted by one or more alkyl substituents or a 1-piperazino group, unsubstituted or substituted in the 2- or 3-position of the piperazine ring by alkyl, hydroxyl or halogen, and in the 4-position of the
25 piperazine ring by an alkyl, cycloalkyl of 5 to 7 carbon atoms, phenyl or pyridyl;
a group of formula (IV)



wherein R^5 is $-(C(R)_2)_c-$ where c is from 1 to 4 or R^5 is $-C(R_2)_dCROH(C(R)_2)_e-$, where d is from 1 to 4, and e is from 1 to 4, at least one of d and e being 1, the groups R are the same or different and each is hydrogen or alkyl of 1 to 4 carbon atoms, such the R^5 is an alkylene or hydroxyalkylene group containing from 1 to 10 carbon atoms, and Het^1 is 2-nitroimidazolyl, optionally further substituted by one or more alkyl, haloalkyl, halogen, hydroxy, alkoxy or nitro substituents; or
a group of formula (V):-



wherein f is from 1 to 6, the groups R are the same or different and each is hydrogen or alkyl of 1 to 4 carbon atoms, such that the group $-(C(R)_2)_f-$ contains from 1 to 10 carbon atoms and Het^2 is a 5-nitrofuryl group, optionally further substituted by one or more alkyl, haloalkyl, halogen, hydroxy, alkoxy or nitro substituents;

R^2 is a hydrocarbyl or heterocyclyl aromatic group unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents selected from halogen, haloalkyl, alkyl, nitro, hydroxy alkoxy and alkylenedioxy;

the groups R^3 are the same or different and each is hydrogen, alkyl, or hydroxy;

X is -CH= or -N=, and

X¹ is hydrogen or halogen;

wherein the said alkyl groups and moieties
incorporating alkyl groups contain from 1 to 6 carbon atoms
5 unless specified otherwise and the said haloalkyl groups
contain one or more halogen atoms;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

According to further features the present invention
provides processes for producing the compounds of the
10 present invention and pharmaceutical compositions
comprising them.

In the compounds of formula (I), the alkyl and alkoxy
groups may be either straight or branched.

It is preferred that any alkyl groups in the
15 compounds of formula (I) (including alkyl groups which form
part of alkoxy groups) be alkyl groups of 1 to 4 carbon
atoms, i.e. methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, n-butyl,
sec-butyl or tert-butyl. Particularly preferred alkyl
substituents are methyl, and ethyl, most preferably methyl.

20 In the compounds of formula (I) halogen atoms present
as halogen substituents or in haloalkyl substituents may
for example be fluorine, chlorine or bromine atoms.

In one embodiment of the compounds of the invention
R¹ is other than hydroxyalkyl.

25 Where the group R¹ is a group of formula (II)
preferably the groups R are all hydrogen, i.e. the group of
formula (II) is unbranched. Where a group R is other than

- 5 -

hydrogen, preferably R is methyl or ethyl, more preferably methyl. Preferably there is no more than one group R which is other than hydrogen. Preferably the group of formula (II) contains from 1 to 8, more preferably 1 to 6 carbon atoms. Preferably a is 1 or 2, more preferably 1.

Where the group R¹ is a group of formula (III), preferably all the groups R are hydrogen, i.e. R⁴ is straight chain alkylene or hydroxyalkylene. Where a group R is other than hydrogen, preferably R is methyl or ethyl, more preferably methyl. Preferably there is no more than one group R which is other than hydrogen. Preferably R⁴ contains from 1 to 8, more preferably 1 to 6 carbon atoms. Preferably R⁴ is a group -(C(R)₂)_bCROHC(R)₂ and preferably b is 1 or 2, more preferably 1.

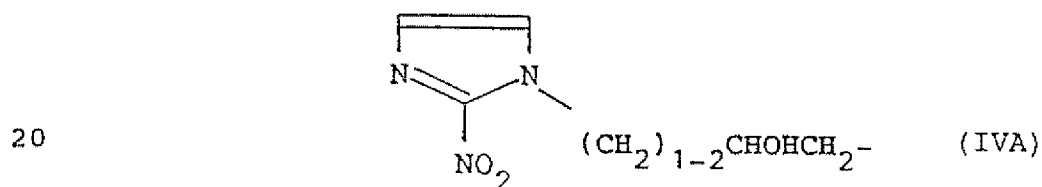
When Am is unsubstituted or substituted, 1-pyrrolidino, 1-piperidino, or 1-morpholino preferably the group is unsubstituted. 1-Morpholino groups are most preferred. When such a group is substituted it is preferably substituted by a single substituent. Preferred substituents include hydroxyl and alkyl, preferably methyl or ethyl, more preferably methyl.

When Am is a 1-piperazino group, preferably the piperazinyl ring is unsubstituted in the 2- and 3-positions. In the 4-position the piperazinyl ring is preferably unsubstituted or N-substituted by alkyl, cyclohexyl or 2-pyridyl, more preferably alkyl and most preferably methyl.

Preferably Am is unsubstituted aziridino. Where Am is substituted aziridino, preferred substituents as methyl and ethyl, more preferably methyl.

Where the group R^1 is a group of formula (IV),
 5 preferably the groups R are all hydrogen, i.e. the group R^5 is straight chain alkylene or hydroxyalkylene. Where a group R is other than hydrogen, preferably R is methyl or ethyl, more preferably methyl. Preferably there is no more than one group R which is other than hydrogen. Preferably
 10 R^5 contains from 1 to 8, more preferably 1 to 6 carbon atoms. Preferably R^5 is a group $-(C(R)_2)_dCROH(C(R)_2)_e-$, more preferably d and e are the same or different and each is 1 or 2, and still more preferably both d and e are 1. Where R^5 is $-(C(R)_2)_c-$ preferably c is 1 or 2.

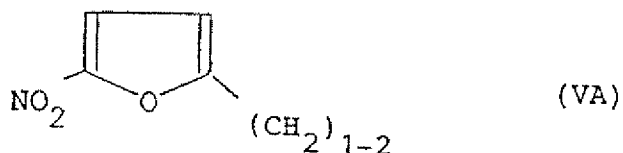
15 Preferably Het¹ is a 2-nitroimidazolyl group, which does not bear any further substituents and most preferably the group of formula (IV) is a group of formula (IVA)



When R^1 is a group of formula (V) preferably the groups R are all hydrogen, so that $-(C(R)_2)_f-$ is straight
 25 chain alkylene. Where a group R is other than hydrogen, preferably R is methyl or ethyl, more preferably methyl other than hydrogen. Preferably $-(C(R)_2)_f$ contains from 1

to 8, more preferably 1 to 6 carbon atoms. Preferably f is 1 or 2.

Preferably the group Het² is unsubstituted 5-nitrofuryl (bearing no further substituents) and most preferably the group Het² is a group of formula (VA):-



In the compounds of formula (I) R² may be unsubstituted or substituted, preferably unsubstituted. Hydrocarbyl aromatic groups may for example be phenyl or naphthyl, preferably phenyl and heterocyclyl aromatic groups may for example be pyridyl or thiophenyl, preferably pyridyl. Most preferably R² is unsubstituted or substituted phenyl. Pyridyl groups may be 2- or 3-, preferably 3-, pyridyl. Naphthyl groups may be 1- or 2-, preferably 2-, naphthyl. Thiophenyl groups may be 2- or 3- thiophenyl.

Where the group R² is substituted it is preferably substituted by 1 or 2 substituents, chosen from halogen, haloalkyl, alkyl, nitro, hydroxy, alkoxy and alkylenedioxy. Preferred substituents include halogen, for example fluorine, chlorine or bromine, haloalkyl, for example trifluoromethyl, nitro, and alkoxy, for example methoxy and ethoxy, preferably methoxy. Where R² is substituted phenyl, preferably it is 4-substituted phenyl, more preferably 4-halophenyl and most preferably 4-fluorophenyl.

Preferably each of the groups R^3 is hydrogen. Where R^3 is other than hydrogen, preferably it is hydroxyl or alkyl, preferably ethyl or methyl and more preferably methyl.

- 5 In the compounds of formula (I) X is preferably -N=. Preferably X^1 is hydrogen.

Salts of the compounds of formula (I) may be any pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salts of the compounds of formula (I). Examples of suitable salts
10 include, salts of inorganic acids such as chlorides, bromides, iodides, phosphates and sulphates and salts of organic acids such as acetates, citrates, lactates and tartrates. Salts of inorganic acids are preferred, hydrochlorides, hydrobromides and hydroiodides are more
15 preferred. Hydrochlorides are most preferred.

Particular examples of the compounds of formula (I) are:-

1,2-Dihydro-8-(piperazin-1-yl)-4-phenylimidazo[1,2-
20 a]quinoxaline 5-oxide,

1,2-Dihydro-8-(piperazin-1-yl)-4-phenylimidazo[1,2-a]
pyrido [3,2-e] pyrazine 5-oxide,

25 1,2-Dihydro-8-((4-oxiranylmethyl)piperazin-1-yl)-4-phenylimidazo[1,2-a] pyrido [3,2-e] pyrazine 5-oxide,

1,2-Dihydro-8-((4-oxiranylmethyl)piperazin-1-yl)-4-phenylimidazo [1,2-a] pyrido [3,2-e] pyrazine 5-oxide,

1,2-Dihydro-8-(4-(3-(cis-2,3-dimethylaziridinyl)-2-hydroxypropyl)piperazin-1-yl)-4-phenylimidazo [1,2-a] pyrido [3,2-e] pyrazine 5-oxide,

1,2-Dihydro-8-(4-(3-aziridinyl)-2-hydroxypropyl)piperazin-1-yl)-4-phenylimidazo [1,2-a] pyrido [3,2-e] pyrazine 5-oxide,

1,2-Dihydro-8-(4-(3-(aziridinyl)-2-hydroxypropyl)piperazin-1-yl)-4-phenylimidazo [1,2-a] quinoxaline 5-oxide,

1,2-Dihydro-8-(4-(3-(2-nitro-1-imidazolyl)-2-hydroxypropyl)piperazinyl)-4-phenylimidazo [1,2-a] pyrido [3,2-e] pyrazine 5-oxide,

1,2-Dihydro-8-(4-(3-(2-nitro-1-imidazolyl)-2-hydroxypropyl)piperazinyl)-4-phenylimidazo [1,2-a] quinoxaline 5-oxide,

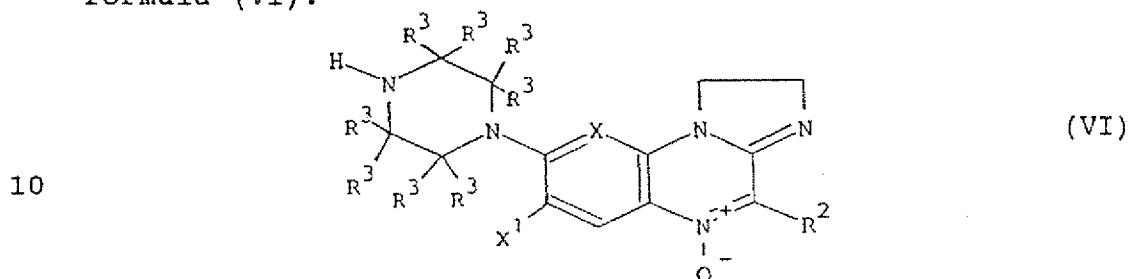
1,2-Dihydro-8-(4-(2-(5-nitrofuryl)methyl)piperazinyl)-4-phenylimidazo [1,2-a] pyrido [3,2-e] pyrazine 5-oxide, and

1,2-Dihydro-8-(4-(2-hydroxyethyl)piperazinyl)-4-

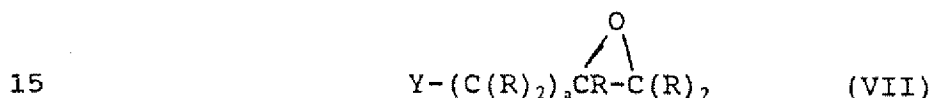
phenylimidazo [1,2-a]pyrido [3,2-e]pyrazine 5-oxide.

These compounds may be in the form of a free base or of salts, and in particular hydrochloride salts.

5 Compounds of formula (I) in which R^1 is a group of formula (II) may be prepared by reacting a compound of formula (VI):-



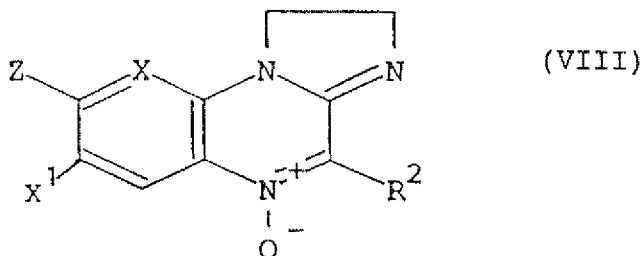
in which R^2 , R^3 , X and X^1 are as hereinbefore defined, with a compound of formula (VII):-



where R and a are as hereinbefore defined and Y is a readily displaceable group such as halogen or an alkyl or aryl ester group such as tosylate, mesylate or triflate.

20 The reaction may be performed in an organic solvent, such as dichloromethane or DMF at ambient temperature.

Compounds of formula (VI) may be obtained by reacting a compound of formula (VIII):-

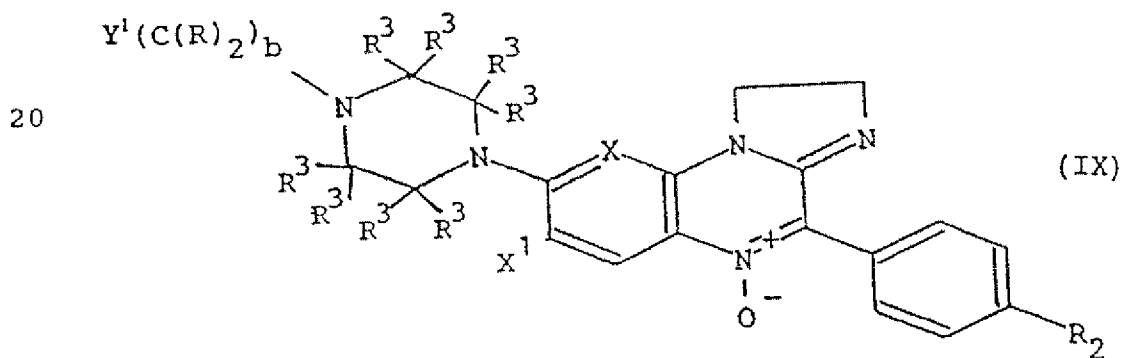


in which R^2 , X and X^1 are as hereinbefore defined and Z is halogen, with piperazine or a derivative thereof. This reaction is generally carried out in an organic solvent as
 5 reaction medium, such as an alcohol, for example ethanol or propan-2-ol, at a temperature from 60 to 110°C.

Compounds of formula (I) in which R^1 is a group of formula (III) and R^4 is $-(C(R)_2)_bCROHC(R)_2-$ may be obtained by reacting a corresponding compound of formula (I) in
 10 which R^1 is a group of formula (II) with an amine $Am-H$, in which Am is as hereinbefore defined.

The reaction may be performed in an organic solvent, such as an alcohol for example ethanol or 2-propanol, at a temperature from 60 to 110°C.

15 Compounds of formula (I) in which R^1 is a group of formula (III) and R^4 is $-(C(R)_2)_b-$ may be obtained by reacting an amine $Am-H$ with a compound of formula (IX)



25 Wherein X , X^1 , R , R^2 , and b are as hereinbefore defined and Y^1 is a readily displaceable group, such as halogen or an alkyl or aryl sulphonate ester group, e.g.,

mesylate, tosylate or triflate.

The reaction may be performed at ambient temperature, in an aprotic solvent, such as DMF, under basic conditions.

Compounds of formula (I) wherein R¹ is hydroxyalkyl
5 may be obtained by conventional methodology from compounds of formula (VI) by reacting with a compound of formula (X)

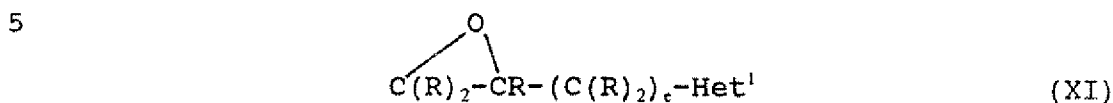


10 wherein Z² is halogen, and R and c are as hereinbefore defined. The reaction may be performed in an alcohol, as reaction solvent, for example ethanol or 2-propanol at a temperature from 60 to 110°C.

Alternatively, compounds of formula (I) wherein R¹ is
15 hydroxylalkyl may be obtained by reacting a compound of formula (VIII) as hereinbefore defined with a hydroxyalkyl piperazine. This reaction is generally carried out in an organic solvent as reaction medium, such as an alcohol, for example ethanol or propan-2-ol, at a temperature from 60 to
20 110°C.

Compounds of formula (I) wherein R¹ is hydroxyalkyl may be converted to a compound of formula (IX), for example by reaction within an alkyl or aryl sulphonic acid at room temperature in basic conditions (to yield a compound in
25 which Y¹ is a sulphonate ester group) optionally followed by reaction with halide, e.g. lithium halide to provide a compound of formula (IX) in which Y¹ is halogen.

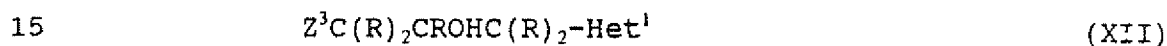
Compounds of formula (I) in which R^1 is a group of formula (IV) and R^5 is $-(C(R)_2)_dCROH(C(R)_2)_e-$ and d is 1 may be obtained by reacting a compound of formula (VI) with a compound of formula (XI):-



in which Het^1 , R and e are as hereinbefore defined.

The reaction may be performed in an organic solvent, such as an alcohol for example ethanol or 2-propanol, at a
10 temperature from 60 to 110°C.

Compounds of formula (XI) in which e is 1 may be prepared using conventional methodology from a halohydroxy compound of formula (XII),



in which Z^3 is halogen and R and Het^1 are as hereinbefore defined. Generally this is performed under basic conditions, eg. using sodium hydroxide as a base.

20 Compounds of formula (XII) may be obtained by reacting an imidazole Het^1-H with an epichlorohydrin or a derivative thereof of formula (XIII).



25

in which Z^3 and R are as hereinbefore defined. This may be performed in known and conventional manner.

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Compounds of formula (XI) including those where e is not 1 may be prepared alternatively by epoxidation, in conventional manner, e.g. using meta-chloroperbenzoic acid, of a compound of formula (XIV)

5



in which R and Het^I are as hereinbefore defined.

Compounds of formula (XIV) may be obtained by
10 reacting an imidazole Het^I-H with a compound (XV)



in which R is as hereinbefore defined and Z⁴ is halogen, in
15 conventional manner.

Compounds of formula (I) in which R^I is a group of formula (IV) and R^S is $-(C(R)_2)_eCROH(C(R)_2)_e-$ and e is 1 may be obtained by reacting an imidazolidine anion Het^I with a corresponding compound of formula (I) in which R^I is a
20 group of formula (II). Preferably the reaction is performed in an aprotic solvent, such as DMF using a salt of the imidazole, such as the potassium salt.

Compounds of formula (I) wherein R^I is a group of formula (IV) where R^S is $-(C(R)_2)_e-$ or when R^I is a group of
25 formula (V), may be obtained by reacting a compound of formula (VI) with a compound of formula (XVI) or (XVII):-

- 15 -



wherein Het^1 , Het^2 , R, c and f are as hereinbefore defined
5 and Y^2 is a readily displaceable group such as halogen or
an alkyl or aryl sulphonate ester group for example
tosylate, mesylate or triflate.

The reaction may for example be performed in basic
conditions and in an aprotic organic solvent, for example
10 dichloromethane or DMF, at ambient temperature.

Compounds of formula (I) thus obtained may be
purified by chromatography, for example on silica gel, or
recrystallised using an appropriate solvent.

Compounds of formula (I) may be converted into
15 pharmaceutically acceptable salts in conventional manner
for the formation of acid addition salts. For example, the
salts of the present invention may be produced by reaction
with an organic acid, or more preferably an inorganic acid
such as hydrochloric acid, in an organic reaction medium.

20 The compounds of formulae (VII), (VIII), (X), (XIII),
(XV), (XVI), and (XVII) are compounds which may be prepared
using known methods. In particular compounds of formula
(VIII) may be prepared according to procedures described in
EP-A-214,632.

25 The compounds of formula (I) and salts thereof are
useful in increasing the sensitivity of tumour cells to
radiation in radiotherapy and as bioreductive agents. A

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compound is administered to a patient having a radiation-reatable cancer, prior to or after, more typically shortly after irradiation of the tumour, in an amount effective to increase the sensitivity of the tumour cells to the effects
5 of the irradiation.

Any solid tumour, which may have regions where cells are radiobiologically hypoxic and become resistant to ionising radiation, may be treated. Examples of such tumours are epithelial tumours of the head, neck, thorax
10 and abdomen, soft tissue sarcomas and brain tumours. The compounds of formula (I) and salts thereof can therefore be employed in the radiotherapy of all such solid tumours where hypoxic cells are known or suspected to exist.

The compounds of formula (I) and salts thereof may
15 also be used where an agent having differential hypoxic cytotoxicity is required. The compounds can be employed for chemopotentialion of a chemotherapeutic agent or as a chemotherapeutic by administration of a compound to a patient having a localised or metastatic cancer.

20 Administration is carried out prior to, simultaneously with or after administration of, typically prior to or simultaneously with, a chemotherapeutic agent such as melphalan, cyclophosphamide, 5-fluorouracil, adriamycin, CCNU(1-(2-chloroethyl)-3-cyclohexyl-1-nitrosourea) or
25 tumour necrosis factor (TNF). Any solid tumours, such as above, which are primary or secondary deposits, where it is known or suspected that hypoxic cells are present can

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therefore benefit from treatment employing a compound of formula (I) or a salt thereof.

The compounds of formula (I) and salts thereof are useful in particular for the treatment of hypoxic tumours.

5 However they may also be useful in the treatment of other tumours rich in enzymes required to activate them as bio-reductive agents or radiosensitisers. Such enzymes may include cytochrome P450, NADPH dependent cytochrome P450 reductase, DT-diaphorase and xanthine oxidase.

10 The compounds of formula (I) and salts thereof may be administered orally or parenterally. The amount administered depends on factors such as the cancer, the condition of the patient and the body weight of the patient. Typically, however, doses of 50 to 1000mg/m² of a
15 patient's body area may be employed.

Accordingly, the present invention further provides a pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of formula (I), as hereinbefore defined or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in association with a
20 pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

The compounds of formula (I) and salts thereof may be formulated in a manner appropriate to the treatment for which it is to be used by bringing it into association with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.
25 Preferably the composition is in a form suitable for parenteral administration. The compound may be included in a dosage form suitable for bolus injection or such as a

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tablet or capsule, for example a capsule comprising known formulation components. The compound may also be formulated for intravenous administration e.g. in a saline drip solution.

5 Suitable carrier or diluent materials for inclusion in the compositions of the present invention include organic or inorganic inert carrier or diluent material for example, water, gelatin, lactose, starch, magnesium stearate, talc, vegetable oils, gum arabic, polyalkylene-
10 glycols, petroleum jelly and the like. The pharmaceutical compositions may be sterilised, pyrogen-free and isotonic. The compositions may contain adjuvants such as preserving, stabilising, wetting or emulsifying agents, salts for varying the osmotic pressure or buffers. The
15 pharmaceutical compositions may contain other therapeutically valuable substances.

 The present invention further provides compounds of formula (I), as hereinbefore defined, and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof for use in the treatment of the
20 human or animal body in a method of therapy and the use of compound of formula (I) and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof in the manufacture of a medicament for use in the treatment of a tumour, for example a hypoxic tumour.

 The following Examples illustrate the invention.

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REFERENCE - EXAMPLE 1

1,2-Dihydro-8-(piperazin-1-yl)-4-phenylimidazo[1,2-a]quinoxaline 5-oxide.

Under an argon atmosphere, 1,2-dihydro-8-fluoro-4-phenylimidazo [1,2-a] quinoxaline 5-oxide (4.0g, 14.2 mmol) and piperazine (12.2g, 0.142 mmol) were heated at 90°C in 2-propanol (20 ml) for 3.5h. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the residue dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ (50 ml), washed with H₂O (50 ml)) and dried (MgSO₄) and concentrated. The resulting orange solid was recrystallised from EtOAc/CH₂Cl₂ to yield 4.2g (72%) of 1,2-dihydro-8-(piperazine-1-yl)-4-phenylimidazo[1,2-a]quinoxaline 5-oxide, mp-212-214°C (Found : C; 68.2, H; 6.0, N; 19.6%, C₂₀H₂₁N₅O.0.33H₂O requires C; 68.0, H; 6.1, N; 19.8%).

1,2-Dihydro-8-fluoro-4-phenylimidazo[1,2-a]quinoxaline 5-oxide may be prepared as disclosed in EP-A-214632.

20 Reference - EXAMPLE 2

1,2-Dihydro-8-(piperazin-1-yl)-4-phenylimidazo[1,2-a]pyrido [3,2-e] pyrazine 5-oxide.

1,2-Dihydro-8-chloro-4-phenylimidazo[1,2-a] pyrido [3,2-e] pyrazine 5-oxide (0.1g, 0.335 mmol) and piperazine (0.288g, 3.35 mmol) were heated at 60°C in 2-propanol for 0.5h under an argon atmosphere. The solution was cooled, evaporated and redissolved in 50ml CH₂Cl₂, washed with H₂O

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(50 ml), dried and evaporated to afford, after recrystallisation from EtOAc/CHCl₃, 1,2-dihydro-8-(piperazin-1-yl)-4-phenylimidazo[1,2-a] pyrido [3,2-e] pyrazine 5-oxide (72%) as an orange solid, mp=177-178°C

5 (Found : C; 64.7, H; 5.7, N; 23.8%, C₁₉N₂₀O.0.33H₂O requires C; 64.4, H; 5.8, N; 23.7%)

1,2-Dihydro-8-chloro-4-phenylimidazo[1,2-a]quinoxaline 5-oxide may be prepared as disclosed in EP-A-214632.

10

EXAMPLE 3

1,2-Dihydro-8-((4-oxiranylmethyl)piperazin-1-yl)-4-phenylimidazo[1,2-a] pyrido [3,2-e] pyrazine 5-oxide.

Glycidyl tosylate (1.0g, 4.4 mmol) was stirred in 10 ml anhydrous DMF with 1,2-dihydro-8-piperazin-1-yl)-4-phenylimidazo[1,2-a] pyrido [3,2-e] pyrazine 5-oxide (1.5g, 4.3 mmol), together with 1.5 ml Et₃N for 24h at ambient temperature. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure at 35°C and the residue purified on silica, 20 eluting with MeOH. The resulting solid was recrystallised from 2-propanol to afford 1,2-dihydro-8-((4-oxiranylmethyl)piperazin-1-yl)-4-phenylimidazo[1,2-a] pyrido [3,2-e] pyrazine 5-oxide (55%) as orange crystals, mp=104-107°C, ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃) δ 2.3 (t, 2H, J=6Hz), 2.8 (m, 6H), 25 3.5 (m, 4H), 4.1 (s, 4H), 6.1 (d, 1H, J=2.4Hz), 6.6 (dd, 1H, J=2.4 and 9.6Hz), 7.3 (m, 3H), 7.8 (m, 2H) and 8.1 (d, 1H, J=8.4Hz) ppm. (Found : C; 66.7, H; 6.4, N; 16.7%,

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$C_{23}H_{25}N_5O_2 \cdot 0.5H_2O$ requires C; 66.8, H; 6.3, N; 16.9%).

EXAMPLE 4

1,2-Dihydro-8-((4-oxiranylmethyl)piperazin-1-yl)-4-phenylimidazo [1,2-a] pyrido [3,2-e] pyrazine 5-oxide

This compound was prepared in accordance with the procedure of Example 3 to yield 1,2-dihydro-8-((4-oxiranylmethyl)piperazin-1-yl)-4-phenylimidazo [1,2-a] pyrido [3,2-e] pyrazine 5-oxide (60%) as an orange solid, mp=196-197°C, 1H -NMR ($CDCl_3$) δ 2.4 (t, 2H, J=6Hz), 2.7 (m, 7H), 3.8 (m, 4H), 4.1 (s, 4H), 6.2 (d, 1H, J=8.4Hz), 7.4 (m, 3H), 7.8 (m, 2H) and 8.2 (d, 1H, J=8.4Hz) ppm.

EXAMPLE 5

1,2-Dihydro-8-(4-(3-(cis-2,3-dimethylaziridinyl)-2-hydroxypropyl)piperazin-1-yl)-4-phenylimidazo [1,2-a] pyrido [3,2-e] pyrazine 5-oxide

1,2-Dihydro-8-((4-oxiranylmethyl)piperazin-1-yl)-4-phenylimidazo [1,2-a] pyrido [3,2-e] pyrazine 5-oxide (0.25g, 0.62 mmol) was dissolved in 1.5 ml EtOH (1% Et_3N) together with cis-2,3-dimethylaziridine (0.25 ml, ca. 5 mmol), and the reaction mixture heated under reflux for 3h. The solution was cooled and evaporated, and the residue purified on silica, eluting with $CHCl_3/MeOH/Et_3N$ (90:9:1) to give 1,2-dihydro-8-(4-(3-(cis-2,3-dimethylaziridinyl)-2-hydroxypropyl)piperazin-1-yl)-4-phenylimidazo [1,2-a] pyrido [3,2-e] pyrazine 5-oxide (52%) as orange crystals,

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mp=73-76°C, ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃) δ 1.1 (d, 6H, J=4.8Hz), 1.45 (m, 2H), 2.4-2.8, (m, 8H), 3.5 (m, 5H), 4.1 (s, 4H), 6.2 (d, 1H, J=8.4Hz), 7.35 (m, 3H), 7.7 (m, 2H) and 8.1 (d, 1H, J=8.4Hz) ppm.

5

EXAMPLE 6

1,2-Dihydro-8-(4-(3-aziridinyl)-2-hydroxypropyl)piperazin-1-yl)-4-phenylimidazo [1,2-a] pyrido [3,2-e] pyrazine 5-oxide

10 This compound was prepared in accordance with the procedure of Example 5 but using aziridine and with a reaction time of 0.3h. The residue obtained after evaporation of the solvents was purified on neutral alumina, eluting with MeOH/Et₃N (99:1) to give 1,2-dihydro-
15 8-((4-(3-aziridinyl)-2-hydroxypropyl)piperazin-1-yl)-4-phenylimidazo [1,2-a] pyrido [3,2-e] pyrazine 5-oxide (35%) as an orange waxy solid ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃) δ 1.3 (m, 2H), 1.8 (m, 2H), 2.5-2.8 (m, 8H), 3.5 (m, 1H), 3.6 (m, 4H), 4.15 (s, 4H), 6.2 (d, 1H, J=8.4Hz), 7.4 (m, 3H), 7.8 (m, 2H) and 8.2
20 (d, 1H, J=8.4Hz) ppm.

EXAMPLE 7

1,2-Dihydro-8-((4-(3-(aziridinyl)-2-hydroxypropyl)piperazin-1-yl)-4-phenylimidazo [1,2-a]
25 quinoxaline 5-oxide

This compound was prepared in accordance with the procedure of Example 6 using 1,2-dihydro-8-((4-

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oxiranylmethyl)piperazin-1-yl)-4-phenylimidazo[1,2-a]
pyrido [3,2-e] pyrazine 5-oxide as starting material to
afford 1,2-dihydro-8-(4-(3-(aziridinyl)-2-
hydroxypropyl)piperazin-1-yl)-4-phenylimidazo [1,2-a]

5 quinoxaline 5-oxide (32%) as an orange solid, mp=124-128°C,
¹H-NMR (CDCl₃) δ 1.2 (m,2H), 1.8 (m,2H), 2.2-2.5 (m,8H), 3.3
(m,5H), 4.0 (s,4H), 6.0 (d,1H,J=2.4Hz), 6.6 (dd,1H,J=2.4
and 9.6Hz), 7.3 (m,3H), 7.7 (m,2H) and 8.1 (d,1H,J=8.4Hz)
ppm.

10

EXAMPLE 8

1,2-Dihydro-8-(4-(3-(2-nitro-1-imidazolyl)-2-
hydroxypropyl)piperazinyl)-4-phenylimidazo [1,2-a] pyrido
[3,2-e] pyrazine 5-oxide

15 1-Oxiranylmethyl-2-nitroimidazole (0.15g, 0.88 mmol)
and 1,2-dihydro-8-(piperazin-1-yl)-4-phenylimidazo [1,2-a]
pyrido [3,2-e] pyrazine 5-oxide (0.15g, 0.43 mmol) were
refluxed for 1.5h in 5mL EtOH. The cooled solution was
evaporated and purified on silica, eluting with MeOH/CHCl₃,
20 (1:9) to give 1,2-dihydro-8-(4-(3-(2-nitro-1-imidazolyl)-2-
hydroxypropyl)piperazinyl)-4-phenylimidazo [1,2-a] pyrido
[3,2-e] pyrazine 5-oxide (68%) as an orange solid, mp=158-
160°C (dec.), ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃) δ 2.5 (m,2H), 2.6 (m,4H), 3.55
(m,4H), 4.1 (s,4H), 4.5 (m,3H), 6.3 (d,1H,J=8.4Hz), 7.2
25 (s,1H), 7.25 (s,1H), 7.3 (m,3H), 7.8 (m,2H) and 8.2
(d,1H,J=8.4Hz) ppm. The product was converted to a
bishydrochloride by dissolving in EtOAc/CH₂Cl₂, and treating

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with 1.0M HCl in Et₂O. The resulting solid was triturated and washed with Et₂O, to yield the bishydrochloride as an orange solid, mp=>200°C (dec.), (Found : C; 45.2 H; 5.3, N; 18.7%, C₂₅H₂₈N₉O₄.2HCl.4H₂O requires C; 45.3, H; 5.7, N; 19.0%).

EXAMPLE 9

1,2-Dihydro-8-(4-(3-(2-nitro-1-imidazolyl)-2-hydroxypropyl)piperazinyl)-4-phenylimidazo [1,2-a] quinoxaline 5-oxide

10 This compound was prepared in accordance with the procedure of Example 8 to afford 1,2-dihydro-8-(4-(3-(2-nitro-1-imidazolyl)-2-hydroxypropyl)piperazinyl)-4-phenylimidazo [1,2-a] quinoxaline 5-oxide (69%), as an orange crystalline solid, mp=220-221°C (dec.), (Found : C; 15 59.4, H; 5.4, N; 21.0%, C₂₆H₂₈N₈O₄.0.5H₂O requires C; 59.4, H; 5.5, N; 21.3%).

EXAMPLE 10

1,2-Dihydro-8-(4-(2-(5-nitrofuryl)methyl)piperazinyl)-4-phenylimidazo [1,2-a] pyrido [3,2-e] pyrazine 5-oxide

20 5-Nitrofuran-2-methanol (0.5g, 3.5 mmol) in 2 ml anhydrous CH₂Cl₂ was added slowly with stirring at 0°C to 4-toluenesulphonyl chloride (3.3g, 17.5 mmol) in 3 ml anhydrous CH₂Cl₂ containing Et₃N (0.4g, 5.25 mmol). The solution was stirred for 2.5h and then allowed to reach room temperature, diluted with 50 ml CH₂Cl₂ and washed with 2 x 50 ml H₂O. The solvent was removed under reduced

- 25 -

pressure and the residue purified on silica, eluting with CH_2Cl_2 to afford 0.35g (34%) of 5-nitrofuran-2-methyl 4-toluenesulphonate as a white solid, mp=97-98°C, $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (CDCl_3) 2.4 (s,3H), 5.0 (s,2H), 6.55 (d,1H,J=4Hz), 7.1 (d, 1H,J=4H₃) 7.3 (d,2H,J=8.4Hz) and 7.7 (d,2H,J=8.4Hz) ppm.

5-Nitrofuran-2-methyl 4-toluenesulphonate (0.25g, 0.85 mmol) was added slowly, with stirring, to a solution of 1,2-dihydro-8-(piperazin-1-yl)-4-phenylimidazo [1,2-a] pyrido [3,2-e] pyrazine 5-oxide (0.2g, 0.575 mmol) in anhydrous CH_2Cl_2 (2ml) containing Et_3N (0.5 ml). Stirring was continued for 1h, and the solution washed with 2 x 10 ml NaHCO_3 (aq), dried (Na_2SO_4) and evaporated. The residue was purified on silica, eluting with MeOH, to afford 1,2-dihydro-8-(4-(2-(5-nitrofuryl)methyl)piperazinyl)-4-phenylimidazo [1,2-a] pyrido [3,2-e] pyrazine 5-oxide (57%) as a dark orange solid recrystallised from EtOH, mp=107-109°C, $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (CDCl_3) δ 2.6 (m,4H), 3.7 (m,6H), 4.2 (s,4H), 6.3 (d,1H,J=8.4Hz), 6.5 (d,1H,J=4Hz), 7.4 (m,4H), 7.8 (m,2H) and 8.15 (d,1H,J=8.4Hz) ppm.

20

EXAMPLE 11

1,2-Dihydro-8-(4-(2-hydroxyethyl)piperazinyl)-4-phenylimidazo [1,2-a]pyrido [3,2-e]pyrazine 5-oxide

8-Chloro-1,2-dihydro-4-phenylimidazo[1,2-a] pyrido [3,2-e] pyrazine 5-oxide (1.0g, 3.4 mmol) and 4-hydroxyethylpiperazine (3.9mL, ca.30mmol) were heated at 90°C in 2-propanol (5mL) for 2h. The solution was colled

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to 0°C filtered and the solid washed with cold 2-propanol. The material obtained was recrystallised from ethanol to give 1,2-dihydro-8-(4-(2-hydroxyethyl)piperazinyl)-4-phenylimidazo [1,2-a]pyrido [3,2-e]pyrazine 5-oxide as an orange solid, mp 200-201.5°C.

EXAMPLE 12

The toxicity of compounds prepared in the foregoing Examples towards aerobic or hypoxic V79 Chinese hamster cells in vitro is shown in Table 1. Toxicity was determined by the use of the modified MTT assay (Stratford and Stephens (1989), Int. J. Radiat. Oncol. Biol. OPhys. 16 973-976). Values quoted represent concentration of drug required to reduce proliferation of treated cultures by 50%. Cells are treated with various drug doses for 3 hours at 37°C under aerobic or hypoxic conditions, following drug removal cells are allowed to proliferate for 3 days prior to assay.

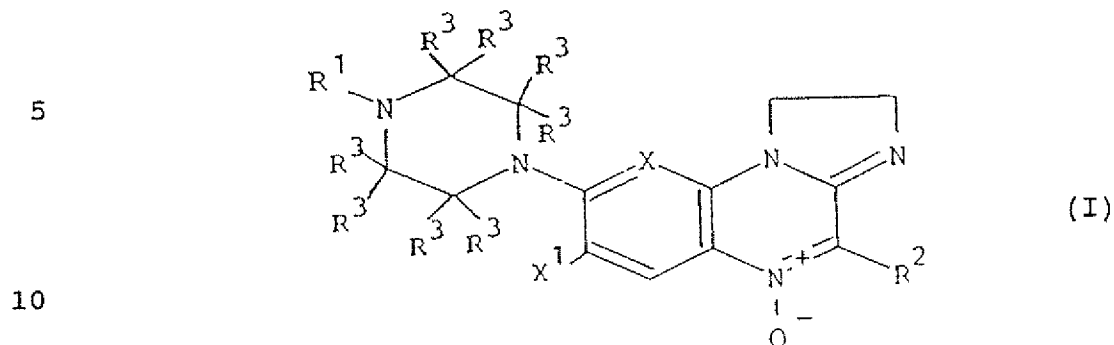
20 **TABLE 1**

	Compound	C air	C N ₂	Ratio
25	mmol dm ⁻³			
	Example 5	0.05	0.01	5
	Example 8	1	0.08	12
30	Example 9	1.8	0.12	15
	Example 11	5.0	0.5	10

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CLAIMS

1. A quinoxaline or pyridopyrazine derivative of formula (I)

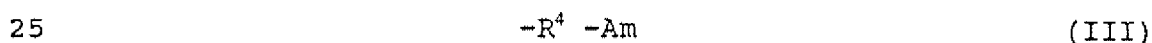


wherein R¹ is a hydroxyalkyl group;
15 a group of formula (II)



20 wherein a is from 1 to 4, the groups R are the same or different and each is hydrogen or alkyl of 1 to 4 carbon atoms such that the group of formula (II) contains in total from 1 to 10 carbon atoms;

a group of formula (III)



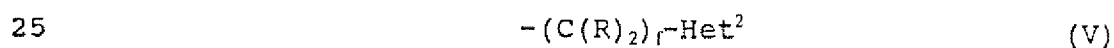
wherein R^4 is $-(C(R)_2)_b-$ or $-(C(R)_2)_bCROHC(R)_2-$, b is from 1 to 4, the groups R are the same or different and each is hydrogen or alkyl of 1 to 4 carbon atoms, such that R^4 is an alkylene or hydroxyalkylene group containing from 1 to 10 carbon atoms, and Am is alkylamino or dialkylamino or a heterocyclic group which is an aziridino group,

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- unsubstituted or substituted by one or more alkyl substituents, a 1-pyrrolidino, 1-piperidino, or 1-morpholino group, unsubstituted or substituted by one or more alkyl, hydroxy or halogen substituents or a 1-piperazino group, unsubstituted or substituted in the 2- or 3-position of the piperazine ring by alkyl, hydroxyl or halogen, and in the 4-position of the piperazine ring by an alkyl, cycloalkyl of 5 to 7 carbon atoms, phenyl or pyridyl;
- 10 a group of formula (IV)



- wherein R^5 is $-(C(R)_2)_c-$ where c is from 1 to 4 or $-(C(R)_2)_dCROH(C(R)_2)_e-$ where d is from 1 to 4, and e is from 1 to 4, at least one of d and e being 1, the groups R are the same or different and each is hydrogen or alkyl of 1 to 4 carbon atoms, such the R^5 is an alkylene or hydroxyalkylene group containing from 1 to 10 carbon atoms, and Het^1 is 2-nitroimidazolyl, optionally further substituted by one or more alkyl, haloalkyl, halogen, hydroxy, alkoxy or nitro substituents; or
- 20 a group of formula (V):-



wherein f is from 1 to 6, the groups R are the same or

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different and each is hydrogen or alkyl of 1 to 4 carbon atoms, such that the group $-(C(R)_2)_f-$ contains from 1 to 10 carbon atoms and Het² is a 5-nitrofuryl group, optionally further substituted by one or more alkyl, haloalkyl, halogen, hydroxy, alkoxy or nitro substituents;

R² is a hydrocarbyl or heterocyclyl aromatic group, unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents selected from halogen, haloalkyl, alkyl, nitro, hydroxy, alkoxy and alkylenedioxy;

10 the groups R³ are the same or different and each is hydrogen, alkyl, or hydroxy;

X is $-CH=$ or $-N=$, and

X¹ is hydrogen or halogen

wherein the said alkyl groups and moieties
15 incorporating alkyl groups contain from 1 to 6 carbon atoms unless specified otherwise and the said haloalkyl groups contain one or more halogen atoms;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

2. A compound according to claim 1 wherein R¹ is a
20 group of formula (III) in which R⁴ is $-(C(R)_2)_bCROHC(R)_2-$, and b is 1 or 2.

3. A compound according to claim 2 in which Am is aziridino unsubstituted or substituted by one or more methyl or ethyl groups.

25 4. A compound according to claim 1 in which R¹ is a group of formula (IV) in which R⁵ is $-(C(R)_2)_dCROH(C(R)_2)_e-$ and d and e are the same or different and each is 1 or 2

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and Het¹ is 2-nitroimidazolyl.

5. A compound according to claim 1 in which R¹ is a group of formula (V) in which f is 1 or 2 and Het² is 5-nitrofuryl.

5 6. A compound according to any one of the preceding claims wherein R² is unsubstituted or substituted phenyl or pyridyl.

7. A compound according to claim 6 in which R¹ is other than hydroxyalkyl.

10 8. A compound according to claim 6 or 7 wherein R² is unsubstituted or substituted phenyl.

9. A compound according to claim 8 wherein R² is unsubstituted phenyl or 4-halophenyl.

10. A compound according to any one of the
15 preceding claims wherein all the groups are R³ are hydrogen.

11. A compound according to any one of the preceding claims wherein X is -N=.

12. A compound according to any one of the
20 preceding claims in which X¹ is hydrogen.

13. A compound according to claim 1 which is

1,2-Dihydro-8-(piperazin-1-yl)-4-phenylimidazo[1,2-a]quinoxaline 5-oxide,

25

1,2-Dihydro-8-(piperazin-1-yl)-4-phenylimidazo[1,2-a]pyrido [3,2-e] pyrazine 5-oxide,

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1,2-Dihydro-8-((4-oxiranylmethyl)piperazin-1-yl)-4-phenylimidazo[1,2-a] pyrido [3,2-e] pyrazine 5-oxide,

5 1,2-Dihydro-8-((4-oxiranylmethyl)piperazin-1-yl)-4-phenylimidazo [1,2-a] pyrido [3,2-e] pyrazine 5-oxide,

10 1,2-Dihydro-8-(4-(3-(cis-2,3-dimethylaziridinyl)-2-hydroxypropyl)piperazin-1-yl)-4-phenylimidazo [1,2-a] pyrido [3,2-e] pyrazine 5-oxide,

15 1,2-Dihydro-8-(4-(3-aziridinyl)-2-hydroxypropyl)piperazin-1-yl)-4-phenylimidazo [1,2-a] pyrido [3,2-e] pyrazine 5-oxide,

1,2-Dihydro-8-((4-(3-(aziridinyl)-2-hydroxypropyl)piperazin-1-yl)-4-phenylimidazo [1,2-a] quinoxaline 5-oxide,

20 1,2-Dihydro-8-(4-(3-(2-nitro-1-imidazolyl)-2-hydroxypropyl)piperazinyl)-4-phenylimidazo [1,2-a] pyrido [3,2-e] pyrazine 5-oxide,

25 1,2-Dihydro-8-(4-(3-(2-nitro-1-imidazolyl)-2-hydroxypropyl)piperazinyl)-4-phenylimidazo [1,2-a] quinoxaline 5-oxide,

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1,2-Dihydro-8-(4-(2-(5-nitrofuryl)methyl)-
piperazinyl)-4-phenylimidazo [1,2-a] pyrido [3,2-e]
pyrazine 5-oxide, or

5 1,2-Dihydro-8-(4-(2-hydroxyethyl)piperazinyl)-4-
phenylimidazo [1,2-a]pyrido [3,2-e]pyrazine 5-oxide;

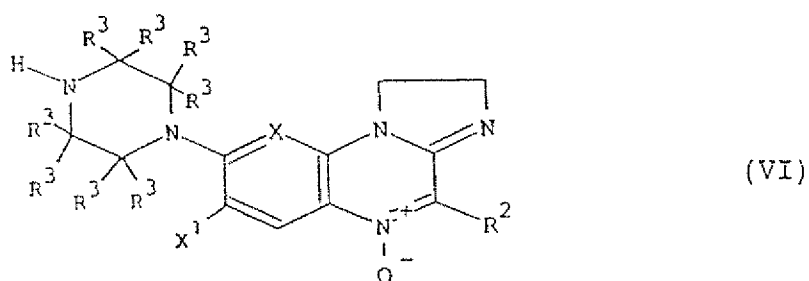
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

10

14. A process for producing a compound as claimed
in any one of the preceding claims which process
comprises:-

where R^1 is a group of formula (II), reacting a compound of

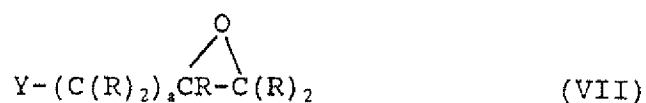
15 formula (VI):-



20

wherein R^2 , R^3 , X and X^1 are as defined in claim 1 with a
compound of formula (VII):-

25

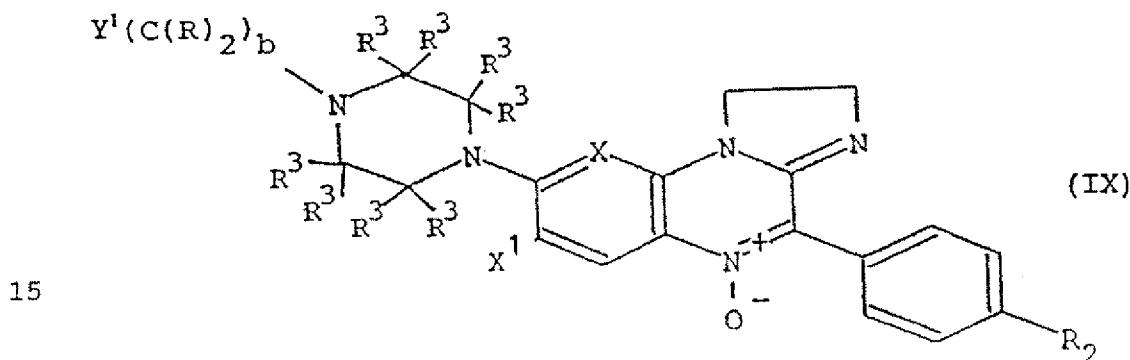


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where R and a are as defined in claim 1 and Y is a readily displaceable group;

where R¹ is a group of formula (III) and R⁴ is -(C(R)₂)_bCROHC(R)₂-, reacting a compound of formula (I) in which R¹ is a corresponding compound of formula (I) in which R¹ is a group of formula (II) with an amine Am-H in which Am is as defined in claim 1;

where R¹ is a group of formula (III) and R⁴ is -(C(R)₂)_b-, reacting an amine Am-H with a compound of formula (IX):



wherein X, X¹, R, R² and b are as hereinbefore defined and Y¹ is a readily displaceable group;

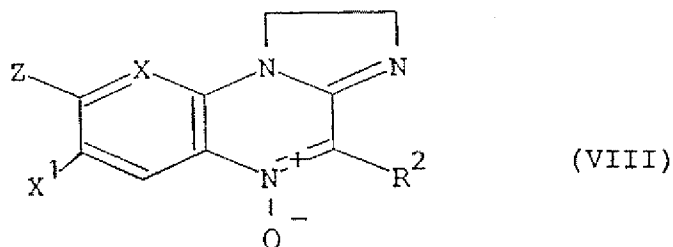
where R¹ is hydroxyalkyl, reacting a compound of formula (VI), as hereinbefore defined, with a compound of formula (X)



wherein Z² is halogen and R and b are as defined in claims 1;

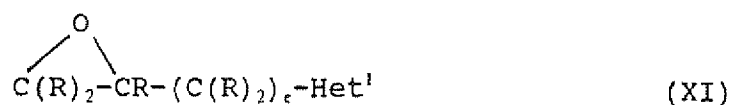
25 where R¹ is hydroxyalkyl, reacting a compound of formula (VIII)

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5 in which R^2 , X and X^1 are as defined in claim 1 and Z halogen with a hydroxyalkylpiperazine;

where R^1 is a group of formula (IV) in which R^5 is $-(C(R)_2)_dCROH(C(R)_2)_e-$, reacting a compound of formula (VI),
 10 as hereinbefore defined, with a compound of formula (XI):-



wherein Het^1 , R and e are as defined in claim 1;

where R^1 is a group of formula (IV) and R^5 is -
 15 $(C(R)_2)_dCROH(C(R)_2)_e-$ and d is 1, reacting an imidazolide anion Het^1 with a corresponding compound of formula (I) in which R^1 is a group of formula (II); or

where R^1 is a group of formula (IV) where R^5 is -
 $(C(R)_2)_e-$ or R^1 is a group of formula (V), reacting a
 20 compound of formula (VI), as hereinbefore defined, with a compound of formula (XVI) or (XVII):-



25

wherein Het^1 , Het^2 , R, c and f are as defined in claim 1, and Y^2 is a readily displaceable group; and

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optionally, converting the compound of formula (I) thus obtained into a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

15. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a
5 compound as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 13 in association with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

16. A compound as claimed in any one of claims 1
to 13 for use in the treatment of the human or animal body
10 as a method of therapy.

17. Use of a compound as claimed in any one of
claims 1 to 13 in the manufacture of a medicament for use
in the treatment of a tumour.

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 5 C07D487/04 C07D471/14 A61K31/495 //(C07D487/04,241:00,
235:00),(C07D471/14,241:00,235:00,221:00)

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 5 C07D A61K

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	EP,A,0 214 632 (SEARLE) 18 March 1987 cited in the application see example 11 ---	8
P,A	WO,A,93 00900 (BRITISH TECHNOLOGY GROUP) 21 January 1993 cited in the application see claim 1 -----	17

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

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8 December 1993

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20. 12. 93

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